



ATTITUDES OF DURHAM BUSINESSES TOWARD A BAG FEE

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OVERVIEW

METHODOLOGY

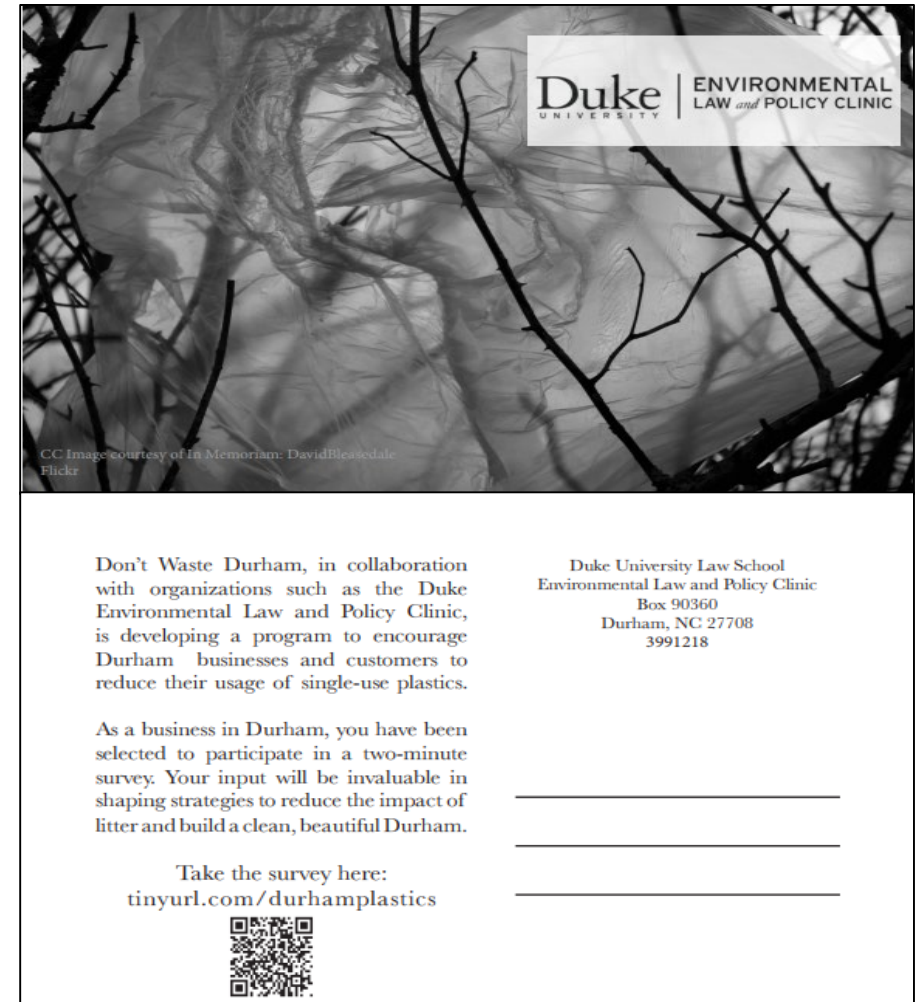
CHARACTERISTICS OF BUSINESSES SURVEYED

RESULTS

CONCLUSION AND NEXT STEPS

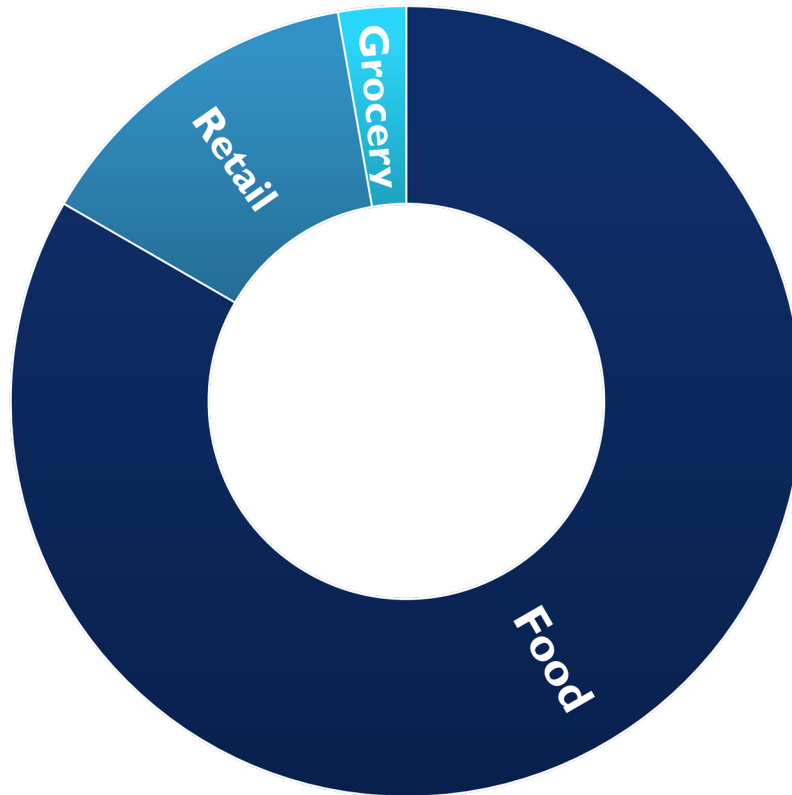
METHODOLOGY

- **Survey creation** *tinyurl.com/durhamplastics*
 - Two-minute survey on sustainability practices, attitudes toward fees, and concerns
- **Survey distribution**
 - **Targeted 210 businesses**
 - 115 via email
 - 38 via Facebook/Contact Page
 - 50 via postcard
 - 7 in-person
 - **38 responses**



CHARACTERISTICS: BUSINESS TYPE

Types of businesses that responded (n= 36)



Food

- 22 Restaurants
- 4 Bars/Breweries
- 3 Bakeries/Cafes
- 1 Caterer

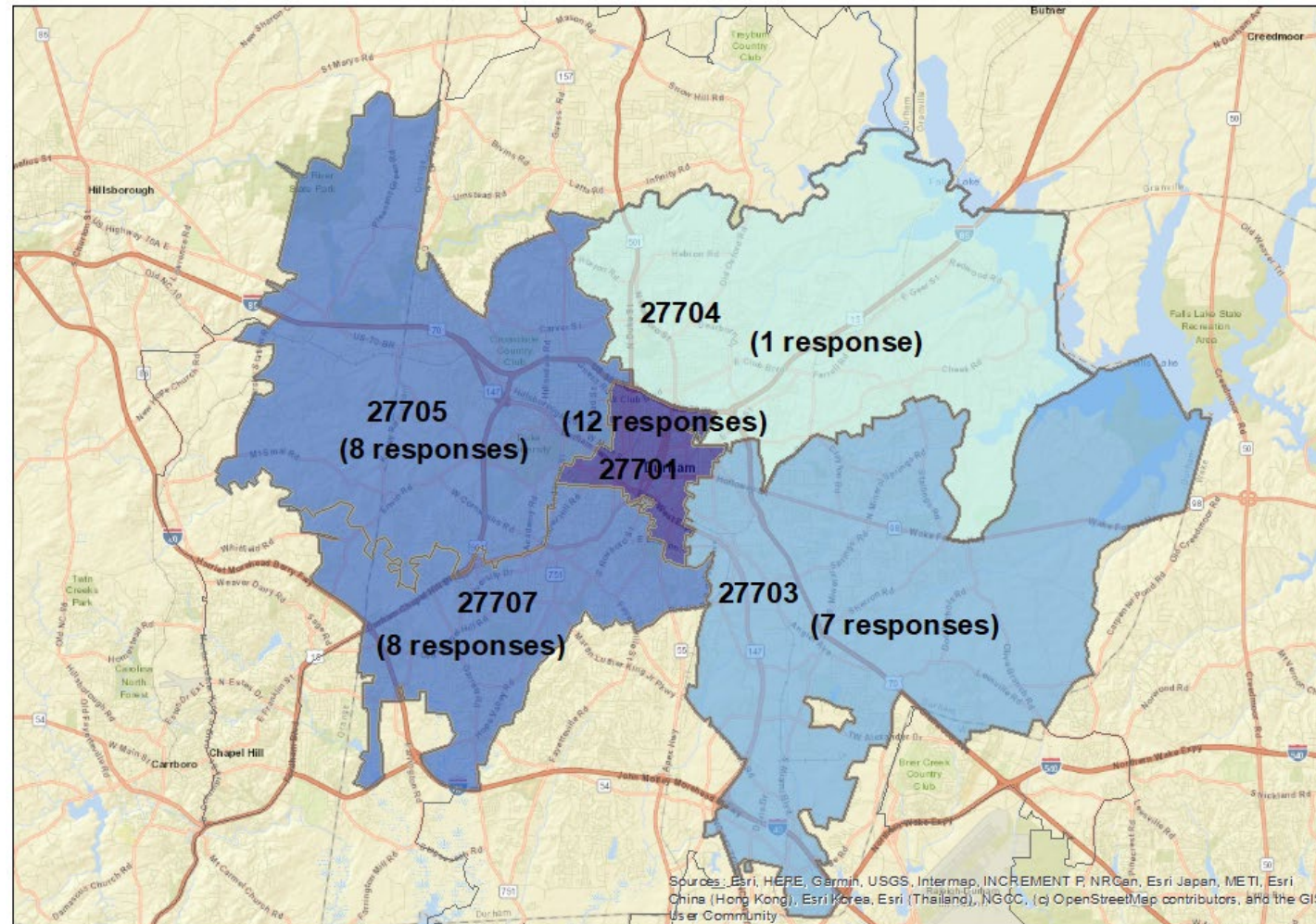
Grocery

- 1 Grocery Store

Retail

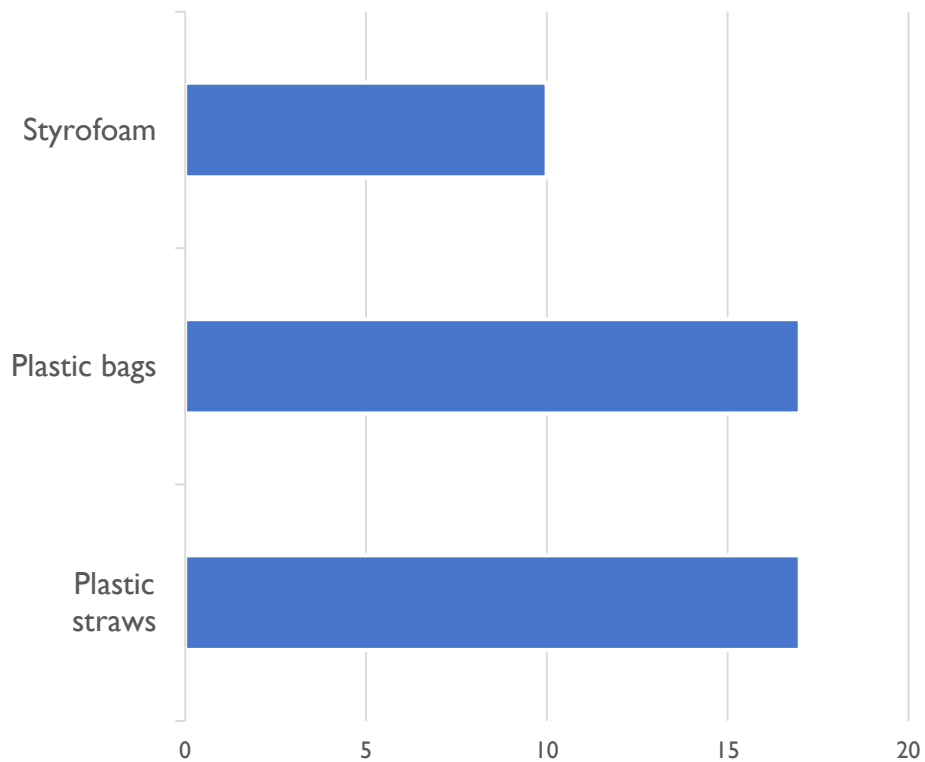
- 2 Clothing Stores
- 2 Gift Stores
- 1 Convenience Store

CHARACTERISTICS: BUSINESS AREA

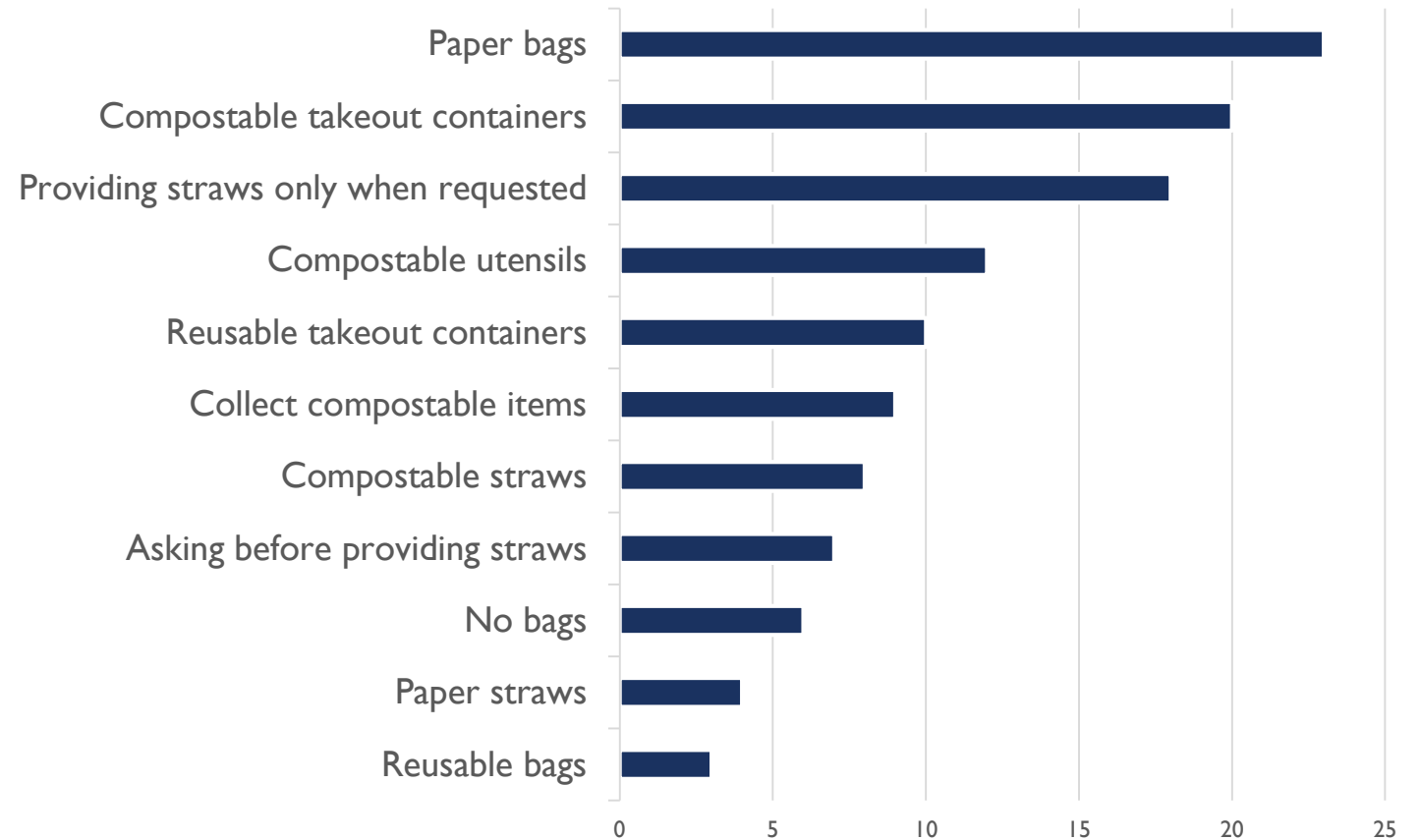


CHARACTERISTICS: USE OF PLASTICS/ALTERNATIVES

Single-use plastics used by businesses
(n=23)



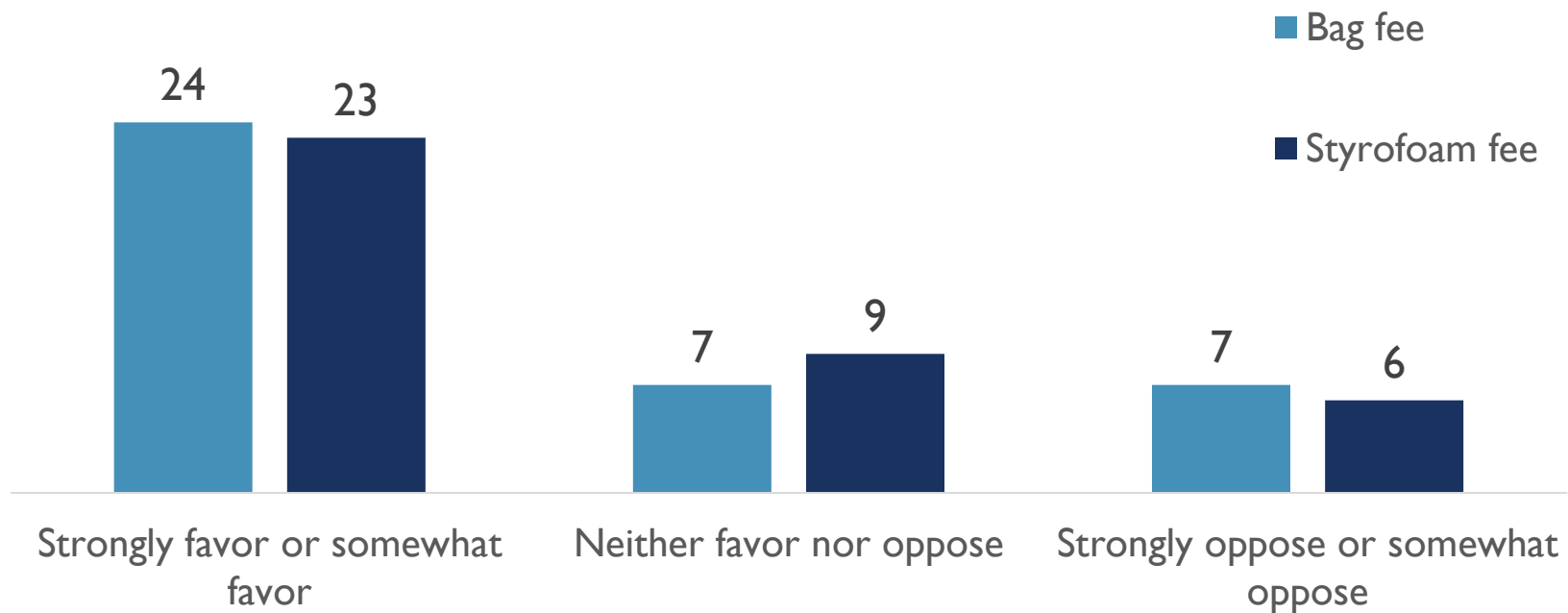
Alternatives used by businesses (n=33)



RESULTS

I. There is widespread support for both a bag fee and a Styrofoam fee.

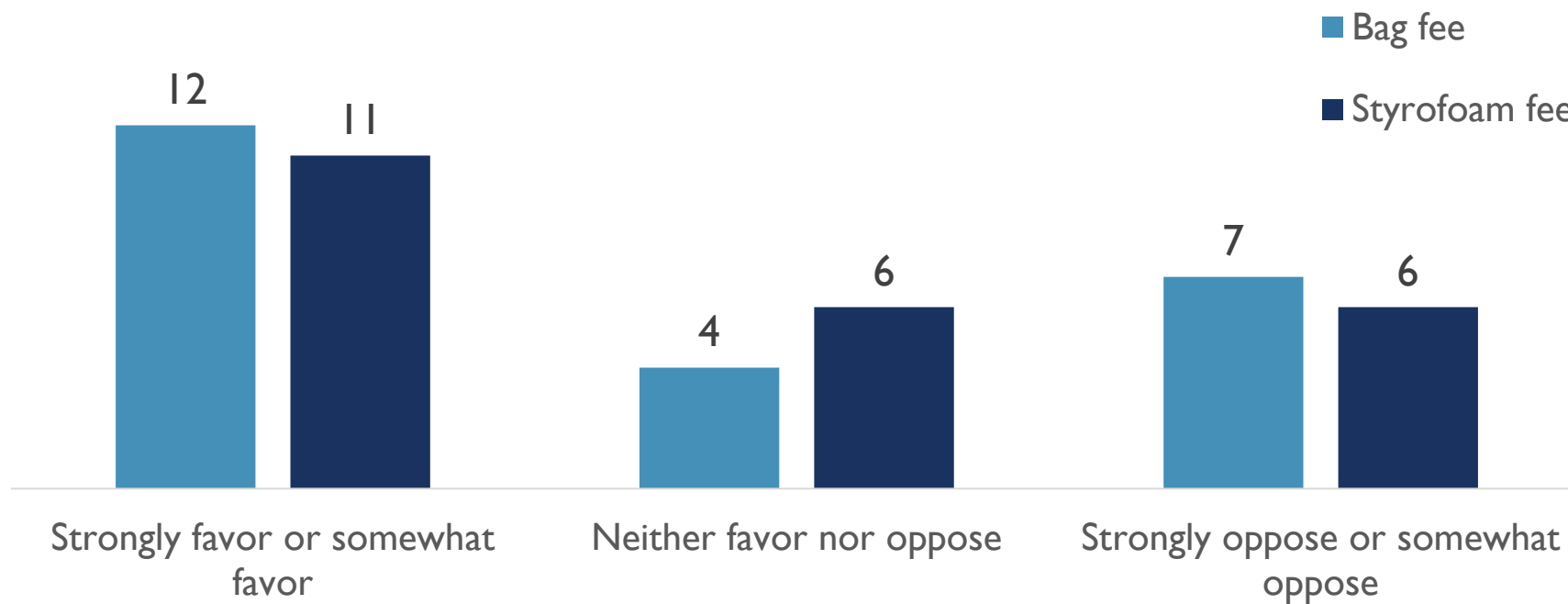
Responses of all businesses to a bag fee and
a Styrofoam fee (n=38)



RESULTS

2. Most businesses that use single-use plastics are supportive of or neutral to the fees.

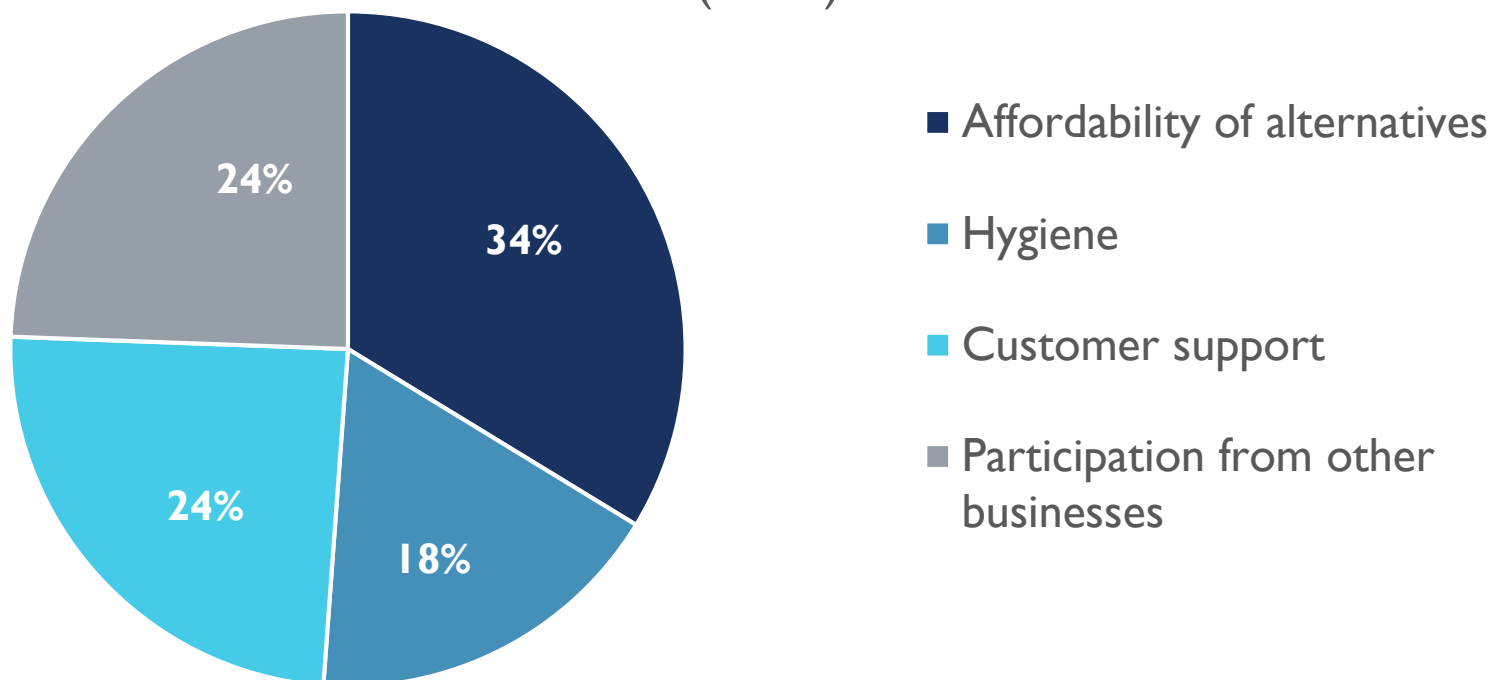
Responses of businesses that use single-use plastics to a bag fee and a Styrofoam fee (n=23)



RESULTS

3. When asked to identify potential concerns, affordability was the primary concern.

Businesses very concerned or somewhat concerned about affordability, hygiene, customer support, and participation from other businesses (n=31)



INTERVIEWS

Challenges

- Financial Cost
- Consumer behavior
- Marketing strategies

Potential Cost Savings

- Reducing the usage of bags
 - Training staff

CONCLUSIONS

Takeaways

- Most businesses, including those that use single-use plastics, would be supportive of a bag fee.
- Businesses are primarily concerned with financial cost.

Next Steps

- Continue to survey and interview businesses.
- Increase representation from businesses in different areas, and from non-restaurant businesses.

